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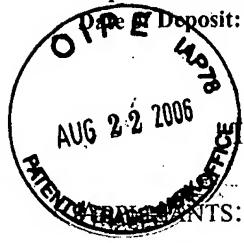
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Date of Deposit: August 22, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 21402-230 (Cura 530)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Vernet et. al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 10/038,854

EXAMINER: Marianne P. Allen

FILING DATE: December 31, 2001

ART UNIT: 1647

FOR: PROTEINS AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents

August 22, 2006

P.O. Box 1450

Boston, Massachusetts

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT**

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed May 22, 2006 in the above-identified application. With no extension, this response is due on or before August 22, 2006. Thus, Applicants believe no fees are due in connection with this filing. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 21402-230 (CURA 530).

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.